



Staff Report

Operations – Water & Wastewater Services

Report To: COW - Operations, Planning and Building Services
Meeting Date: April 8, 2025
Report Number: OPS.25.018
Title: Wastewater Master Plan PIC 2 Follow-up
Prepared by: Allison Kershaw, Manager of Water & Wastewater Services

A. Recommendations

THAT Council receive Staff Report OPS.25.018, entitled “Wastewater Master Plan PIC 2 Follow-up” for their information;

AND THAT Council approve the issuance of the “Notice of Completion” for the 30-day review for the Wastewater Master Plan.

B. Overview

The purpose of this Staff Report is to provide Council with a summary of the comments and feedback that was received through the Wastewater Master Plan Virtual Public Information Centre (PIC) 2 held on February 26, 2026.

C. Background

The Town of The Blue Mountains has initiated a Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (MCEA) to complete a Wastewater Master Plan. This study is conducted according to the requirements of Phases 1 and 2 of the MCEA process which is an approved process under the Environmental Assessment Act. This Master Plan is being completed as Approach 2 Master Plan with sufficient detail to fulfill the requirements for Schedule “B” projects, such as new or upgraded sewage pumping stations, and forcemains.

D. Analysis

The purpose of this study was to evaluate the Town’s long-term wastewater treatment and collection system needs and identify a preferred solution to be implemented to improve the system to accommodate the Town’s growth. This process will help identify system requirements and assist with long-term capital planning. Recommended projects include:

- Gravity sewer upgrades in Thornbury and Craigeith, including upgrades to the Little Beaver River Siphon (all projects exempt under the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (MCEA))
- Sewage pumping station (SPS) upgrades at the Mill Street SPS, Alta SPS, and Craigeith Main Sewage Lift Station (all projects exempt or approved under the previous MCEAs)
- New sewage lift station at the Craigeith Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP), (approved under previous MCEA)
- Future WWTP expansions or upgrades (will be subject to subsequent Schedule C MCEA)

The Virtual Public Information Centre (PIC) #2 for the Wastewater Master Plan was held on February 26, 2025. A copy of the presentation can be found in Attachment #1. The comments received from the residents and stakeholders in response to the PIC #2 were addressed at the PIC. All comments and responses are summarized in Attachment #2 Public Information Centre #2 Summary. All attendees were required to register with the Town. The PIC was recorded and is available on the Town's website, under the project page.

Included below is a summary of the primary subjects heard during the PIC. Attachment #2 provides detail on the comments provided.

Future growth projections

Comments were received regarding the method of calculating the future growth projections and whether they were based on current development applications.

Consideration for secondary plan areas and developments beyond our municipal boundary

Comments were received regarding if considerations had been made for the secondary plan areas or properties beyond our municipal boundaries. Specifically, how that would impact the load on the system.

Funding for the required projects to support growth

Comments were received regarding the funding source for growth related infrastructure, and whether the current taxpayers will need to cover the costs.

Next Steps

The Town will continue to work with our consultant to complete and post the Notice of Completion and answer any concerns or questions heard through the mandated thirty (30) day notice period. The Notice of Completion can be found in Attachment #3. The final Wastewater Master Plan Report is available on the Project's webpage, on the Town's website.

E. Strategic Priorities

1. Communication and Engagement

We will enhance communications and engagement between Town Staff, Town residents and stakeholders

2. Organizational Excellence

We will continually seek out ways to improve the internal organization of Town Staff and the management of Town assets.

3. Community

We will protect and enhance the community feel and the character of the Town, while ensuring the responsible use of resources and restoration of nature.

4. Quality of Life

We will foster a high quality of life for full-time and part-time residents of all ages and stages, while welcoming visitors.

F. Environmental Impacts

The Wastewater Master Plan will identify the needs of the wastewater collection and treatment system to ensure the system is able to meet the needs of our existing and future users. The wastewater collection and treatment system are designed and operated to protect human health and the environment.

G. Financial Impacts

Capital projects required to meet the long-term growth needs for the Town will be brought forward for Council's approval through the annual budget process.

H. In Consultation With

Jason Petznick, Communications Coordinator

Mark Service, Wastewater Supervisor

I. Public Engagement

The topic of this Staff Report was the subject of a Public Meeting and/or a Public Information Centre in accordance with the following schedule:

- February 5, 2025 - Notice of Public Information Centre posted on Town website;

- February 5, 2025 - Notice of Public Information Centre advertised in The Blue Mountains Review;
- February 5, 2025 - Notice of Public Information Centre emails to project subscribers;
- February 26, 2025 - Public Information Centre #2 Meeting
- April 8, 2025 Committee of the Whole – Follow up report to the Public Meeting, attaching comments received in response to the Public Meeting;
- April 22, 2025 Council – recommendation from Committee of the Whole considered by Council, and related By-law, if any

Any comments regarding this report should be submitted to Allison Kershaw, Manager of Water & Wastewater Services managerwww@thebluemountains.ca.

J. Attached

1. Attachment 1 – Public Information Centre 2 Slides
2. Attachment 2 - Public Information Center 2 Summary
3. Attachment 3 – Notice of Completion

Respectfully submitted,

Allison Kershaw,
Manager of Water & Wastewater Services

Alan Pacheco
Director of Operations

For more information, please contact:
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Report Approval Details

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| Document Title: | OPS.25.018 PIC 2 Follow Up for Wastewater Master Plan.docx |
| Attachments: | - Attachment 1 - Public Information Centre 2 Slides.pdf - Attachment 2 - Public Information Centre 2 Summary.pdf - Attachment 3 - Notice of Completion.pdf |
| Final Approval Date: | Mar 27, 2025 |

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

Allison Kershaw - Mar 27, 2025 - 3:52 PM

Alan Pacheco - Mar 27, 2025 - 4:20 PM